

NEWPORT BEACH HARBOR COMMISSION MINUTES
City Council Chambers
October 12, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

6:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Commissioners McIntosh, Valdes, Rodheim, Duffield, West and Avery were present.
Commissioner Rhyne was absent.

Council Liaison: Mayor Pro Tem Nancy Gardner

Staff: Manager Chris Miller
Supervisor Shannon Levin

MINUTES

The September minutes were not available and will be made available in November.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Dan Purcell commented that the Commission should consider adjourning in memory of the eight people who died in Seal Beach today. Len Bose presented a brief depiction of the recycling center at Dana Point Harbor and that Newport Harbor could use some similar facilities. Bose added that if a boater needs to dispose of used oil, zincs, or other hazardous materials there is not a designated area. Often materials are dropped off at shipyards and they are left with the responsibility of proper disposal. It was noted that Dana Point Harbor Director Brad Gross will attend the November Commission meeting and will discuss the process and maintenance requirements of the recycling centers. Chuck South commented that mooring lines and equipment are being damaged by renters unfamiliar with the moorings, and mooring permittees are responsible for the cost of replacing the equipment. South mentioned that there should be a way to make it work better for all concerned. Commissioner Duffield will include this in the scope of the mooring subcommittee.

ACTION & APPEAL ITEMS

ITEM #1

Subject: Harbor Speed—Nautical Miles per Hour vs. Miles per Hour

Abstract: The Harbor Commission's Speed Limit Subcommittee is requesting the Commission to revisit the subject of converting the speed limit from nautical miles per hour to miles per hour.

Discussion: Commissioner West produced a handout (attached) describing the background of the nautical terms, support for maintaining the knots/hour (KPH), and a recommendation to the Commission to maintain KPH. Commissioners Avery and McIntosh agreed that it is consistent to maintain what is taught to mariners. Miller affirmed that any discrepancy between the City's KPH terms would prevail over the County's MPH. Public comments were supportive of keeping KPH in the Code. Andy Rose commented that the "basic speed law" should be removed from the code because it is subjective. Dwight Belden added that larger boats cannot get under 5 MPH and that nuisance wake will not change with this code. The 15% decrease in allowable speed, KPH to MPH, would constitute a big change for those lifetime boaters and a historical standard. Seymour Beek supported West's recommendation.

Action: West motioned to reconsider the ordinance by retaining existing nautical miles per hour; Commissioner Valdes seconded the motion and carried unanimously.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mooring: Duffield met with Harbor Resources staff and Harbor Patrol to discuss mooring related topics. Duffield concluded that there may be a need to review the administrative process and solutions to address derelict boats. He also handed out an article about derelict boats (attached). Duffield will continue to work with staff and Harbor Patrol.

Visioning: Valdes organized a meeting on 9/11/11 and refocused the subcommittee on the 6-8 commercial areas. The subcommittee will present at Tidelands Management Committee in the coming months.

Cruising Guide: Commissioner West will work with staff to publish the guide for the 2012 season.

Code Enforcement: Nothing to report at this time.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:

Mayor Pro Tem Gardner mentioned that the Lower Bay Dredging project in partnership with ACOE is gaining momentum and the City will be taking advantage of any additional funding. Gardner also mentioned that staff is reviewing fishing from bridges as a response to an injury sustained by a boater as a fisherman cast from the Lido Bridge.

HARBOR RESOURCES UPDATE – Manager Miller gave a PowerPoint presentation on harbor updates. *The update is posted at <http://www.newportbeachca.gov/index.aspx?page=1777>*

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Len Bose commented that it is very easy to get along with Dutra, the dredging operator. He also wants the groin area at the American Legion dredged. Bose suggested that the Cruiser's Guide mention how and where to dispose of recyclables. Dan Purcell asked if dredging has any impact on liquefaction.

RECOMMENDED TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS:

Lieutenant Tom Slayton for a Harbor Patrol update
Brad Gross, Dana Point Harbor Director

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

Wednesday, November 9, 2011, 6:00 PM

December meeting is cancelled.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned around 7:45PM.